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VA 22313-1450

Ref: Appl. No. 10/658,145. - Filing Date 09/09/2003 – Inventor: Richard Wilfred Wright  
Confirmation No.5398 - Examiner: David A. Reifsnyder - Art. Unit 1723  
Date Mailed: 10/03/2005

Dear Sir,

With reference to your Office Action Summary of rejected claims in my patent application, I have canceled the original claims 1 through 4 and inserted a new claim No.5, as per your recommendations.

In this revised new claim I have consolidated the content of the previous claims with, I hope, an improved description of what I consider to be unique and patentable in this clarifier together with better descriptions of the operational features thereof.

My reference to 'conventional clarifiers' relates to all clarifiers presently used in the international sugar industry including those patented and the two you referred to (Chatain & Chacon). Both of these work on a completely different principle to mine and both lack the 'turbulent-free' settlement volume advantage which, as a sugar equipment design engineer, I can assure you is a major improvement in sugar processing. Over the past 27 years, I have designed and commissioned many 'conventional' type clarifiers for sugar factories in USA, Latin America, South America, Africa and Australia and have always sought to reduce the problem of 'hydraulic turbulence' within the designs.

If I have omitted any necessary documentation or additional fees for this submission of amended claims, please could you advise me by email or phone so that I am not penalized by the 4 month time limit (3 months plus the 30 day extension). I have included copies of your letter regarding the Office Action Summary and my Claims amendment.

Yours sincerely,

Richard W. Wright  
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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/658,145	09/09/2003	Richard Wilfred Wright		5398

34808 7590 10/03/2005

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EXAMINER

REIFSNYDER, DAVID A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1732

DATE MAILED: 10/03/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



Application No.

10/658,145

Applicant(s)

WRIGHT, RICHARD WILFRED

Examiner

David A. Reifsnyder

Art Unit

1723

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 September 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_